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Newspapers As Pessimists

The defect of the newspaper, an inherent defect, growing out of the very nature of competition, is the necessity it is under of telling about the unusual occurrences, and especially about the unusual occurrences which are bad, rather than good. The woman who is divorced, the man who is murdered, the bank that is robbed, the hail that beats the corn down, the cyclone that razes a town, these are the daily matter of the news.

This spirit of the news gets itself reflected into everything, even into the reports of the Genoa conference. The conference cannot last. It will not do any good; everybody is about to go home mad. The Russians will ask for this impossible thing and then for that.

Even the experts, no matter how optimistic they may be in their ordinary avocations, take on a gloomy hue. This morning Frank Vanderlip believes Lloyd George will return to England right away; John Maynard Keynes is sure that another crisis is just around the corner.

Why is this?

Every discussion leading to an action reflects the doubts and the fears. The parties to the action scrutinize it from all sides, carefully to see why it should not be done. There are also speeches in the affirmative. The first function of the newspaper is to describe disaster. Objections nearly always approach disaster closer than the affirmative of a beneficial project.

It is difficult to see how this unduly gloomy coloring of the news can be prevented. The quickest way is for the reader to put in his own optimism. If it is an optimism based on statistics, so much the better.

So many murders to so many millions of people, relatively very few. Most married people live together, happily. The conferences amount to some good, even though all that was expected did not come from them.

The Genoa conference is sure to produce some degree of better understanding.

The Best Thing To Do

The political party having won an election, and finding itself in office, has a duty of government and discipline which is not so easy to administer, especially under traditions which have grown up in American cities.

Some individual, being placed in office, will desire to carry on as if political power were a sort of private property. The hundreds of individuals who have been placed in employment of this and that kind, have the stringest interest in preventing this personal use of power, which nearly always means an early defeat and retirement of the office holders.

A party will be entitled to the consideration of the people, and to longer term in power, if it gives good government. Just now good government means very definite things.

It means especially these things:

1. Let contracts to the lowest responsible bidder who offers goods of the best quality.
2. Conduct the government as frugally as may be, that the cost of running it may be less during hard times.
3. Reduce personnel to the lowest number of persons who will suffice to do the work properly. This is one of the elements of frugal and efficient government.
4. Furnish school children with the education they are entitled to.

There are other things to be done, but these will suffice for the present enumeration.

It is not accidental that the above measures have become an essential of good government in Bridgeport.

The Democratic party made them essential by its campaign promises. The promises were an outgrowth of conditions that had been long arising.

During ten years much money had been spent. It was an era of improvement, accompanied by waste and extravagance.

This could not continue in the presence of a dropping market. Fred Atwater promised, therefore, to go to a basis of retrenchment, of business without favoritism, and that the child should get his education.

These things must be done as a matter of public faith.

It is quite a mistake that it is wrong to deceive one person, and not wrong to falsify to a multitude of persons.

This little editorial is written especially for Democratic office holders, because they have a keener interest than most others, in seeing that their party gives good government.

The Democratic office holders have the same interest that all other citizens have in good government. They have the additional interest that had government will the sooner separate them from their jobs.

All the Democratic office holders will be jealous therefore, to see that some Democratic office holders do not commit abuses of power.

Frock Coated Chicherin

Chicherin, Russian delegate, dined with the King of Italy. He wore the usual dress of a gentleman for such an occasion. It had been intended to offer a toast to the king. The plan was abandoned, because it was feared the Russian might refuse to answer. He says he would have responded as a matter of course, from motives of ordinary courtesy.

Why not? The men who have come to be heads of the Russian state are educated men. They are not dress reformers. They wear ordinary clothing in the ordinary way. They are not reforming morals or manners, except in the area of property and industrial ownership.

An intelligent person who wants something of others does not run counter to the prejudices of those from whom he is seeking favors except when he must. As far as possible he con-

forms to the usages and the customs of those about him, especially in those matters of courtesy which are so important in the prevention of social friction.

To drink to the king in his own country is no more than to greet the host who entertains a guest.

WISE PARENTS NEEDED.

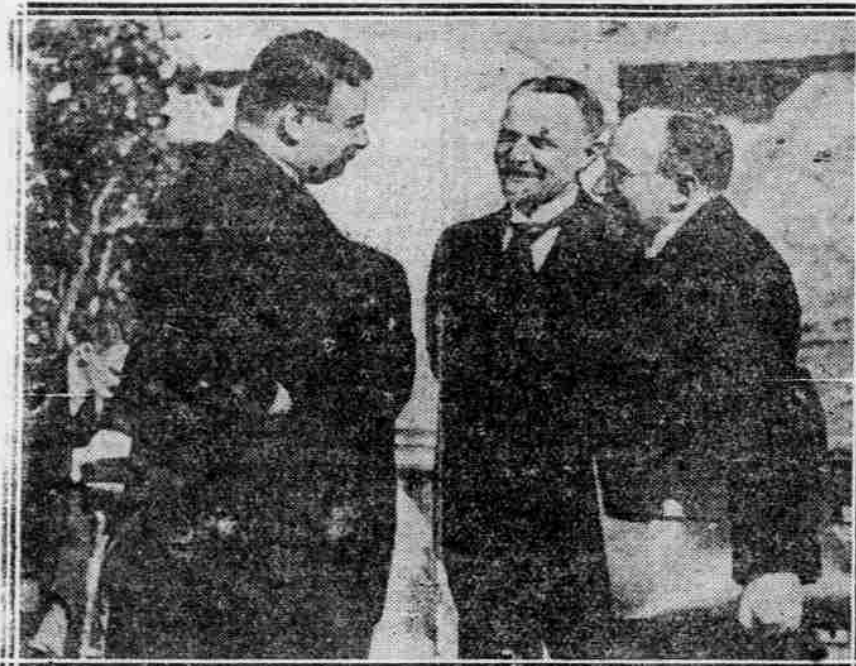
Rabbi Wise, among the wisest of clergymen, preaches a sermon on the duties and rights of parents and children. The child must not suppose that at ripe age, twenty to twenty-two, it knows everything. The parents must not mistake possession for ownership. The child has a personality of its own, which ought to be respected, not unwisely violated.

The problem is a difficult one. There must be some government. It is difficult for a parent to give more than he has of good government. The proper education of the child implies the proper education of the parent. Those cannot do problems in the calculus of probabilities who have never been trained in that pursuit.

Mother love is the best part of training, but unaccompanied by mother wisdom, love alone does not always completely serve. The mortality among babies has been reduced by teaching mothers the art of feeding babies. Love is neither more nor less than before.

Rabbi Wise touches a timely problem, which has its solution in more wisdom, more discipline and more training for parents.

The child cannot contribute much special knowledge to his own rearing; but much to the rearing of the family, which in time will be his.

Russian and German Delegates
Have Their Little Talk At Genoa

With Premier Poincare of France demanding the abrogation of the Russo-Germany treaty, delegates from Russia and Germany to the Genoa Economic Conference are having their little laugh over the discomfiture caused the Allies by that document. Here are shown German Chancellor Wirth (left) conversing with Russian Foreign Minister Tchitcherin outside of the conference hall.

"WE'LL THROW A SCARE INTO THEM,"
SAYS STAR HURLER TO CONNIE MACK

Connie Mack shaking hands with Ed Rommel.

Connie Mack's athletics are making the league sit up and take notice. And the signing of Ed Rommel, long a holdout, gives the elongated leader another good pitching bet to team along with Harris and company.

PORTUGUESE AVIATORS MAKE LONGEST
HOP IN FLIGHT ACROSS ATLANTIC OCEAN

Left, Captain Coutinho; right, Captain Sacadura Cabral.

The Portuguese aviators, Captains Coutinho and Sacadura Cabral, have just completed the longest leg of their flight from Lisbon to Brazil. They have arrived at St. Paul's Rocks after making a 1,000-mile flight from the Cape Verde Islands. This was considered the most dangerous leg of the flight.

Georgia Folk Are Proud Of Five
Harris Brothers Who Gain FameBy J. BART CAMPBELL
International News Service Staff

Washington, April 22 — Down in Georgia they are naturally proud of the five Harris brothers.

United States Senator William Julius Harris.

Major-General Pete Charles Harris, who served in the highly laborious and responsible capacity of Adjutant-General during the World War.

Dr. Seale Harris, distinguished physician and medical authority and editor.

Professor James Coffee Harris, noted educator and author.

Major Hunter Harris, now stationed at Los Angeles, Cal.

It is not often that a United States Senator has three brothers breaking into the latest Who's Who with him and another headed straight toward it.

Senator Harris enjoys that distinction. He is a modest, unassuming man, with a delicious Southern drawl.

He performs his Senatorial duties quietly but assiduously, and he doesn't like to talk about himself. When he arises to address the Senate, which is seldom, he is listened to attentively by his colleagues, for he invariably has something worth while to say. He is usually to be found at his desk in the Senate chamber, giving careful attention to the debate, saving around him, but without taking part in it.

The Senator married Julia Knox Wheeler, daughter of General "Joe" Wheeler of Civil and Spanish War fame. He is, like his brothers, a Southern Democrat. He won the personal friendship of President Wilson during the latter's administration and was in turn Director of the Cen-

tral Bank and a member of the Federal Trade Commission before he entered the Senate. He was formerly Democratic State Chairman of Georgia, and he is the antithesis of the school of political thought represented by Senator "Tom" Watson, who is strangely enough his colleague. He is one of the most active members of the "Agricultural Bloc."

Cedartown, Georgia, is the seat of the Harris family homestead, although not all of the Harris brothers were born there. They were the sons of Charles Hooks and Margaret Monks Harris. The mother came from Kingston, N. C.

General Harris started his eventful military career as a West Pointer. He was a first lieutenant when he participated in the Battle of San Juan Hill and the siege of Santiago de Cuba, in 1898, but for gallantry under fire he was breveted captain, and with that rank he took part in the military operations against the Philippine insurgents in 1899-1900.

After further active service in the Philippines in 1905-07, he was assigned to duty at the War Department, and for his efficient services, as Adjutant-General during the war was awarded the distinguished service medal. In recognition of his services France made him a Commander of the Legion of Honor. It was upon him which rested the responsibility for all the multitudinous details of the draft which furnished the greater part of the A. E. F. His only son, Captain Charles Harris, of the Fifth Engineers, was killed in the Argonne in October, 1918.

Dr. Seale Harris also took part in the World War, being commissioned a major of the Medical Reserve

Corps in 1917 and placed, in charge of the gastro-intestinal diseases in the army, diseases on which he is a noted specialist. He served overseas and was secretary of the research committee of the American Red Cross in France. Promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-colonel in 1918, he was detailed to investigate food conditions and nutritional diseases in Italy, Austria and Germany after the armistice. He joined President Wilson and his party in Italy in January, 1919.

Formerly Was Editor

Before the war he was physician-in-chief of the Mobile (Ala.) City Hospital. He was formerly editor-in-chief of the Southern Medical Journal, is still a regular contributor to medical journals and is a member of the American Medical Editors' Association.

Professor James C. Harris started as a school teacher when but seventeen years old and, by maintaining a private school of his own, paid his way through college. Graduating from the University of Georgia, he founded a boys' preparatory school at Marietta, Ga., where he remained continuously for twenty-four years, until the State authorities asked him to undertake special educational problems at the Georgia School for the Deaf at Cave Spring. He is now the superintendent of the institution, famed throughout the country for its special care of the deaf. He is the author of a number of books and brochures on educational and scientific subjects.

And, as for Major Harris, he is in the army, thank you, and friends say he is going to be a general some day.

Leads Children In Trip To White
House In War Prisoners' Behalf

St. Louis, Mo., April 22 —

Headed by Mrs. Kate Richards O'Hare, an expedition of children whose fathers are serving Federal prison terms for violation of the war-time espionage act left here today for Washington, where they will plead with President Harding to release their dads.

"Please, Mr. President, give me back my daddy," little Elbertine Wheeler of Wilson, Okla., will say to the nation's Chief Executive.

Bobbed-haired, brown-eyed Elbertine, with her thin legs and shabby shoes, will tell President Harding, she said today, that her father, one of the Oklahomans convicted of participation in the "Green Corn Rebellion," did not take up arms against the Government, that he is needed very badly in a certain little cottage back at Wilson.

Mrs. O'Hare, who, with her husband, Frank O'Hare, is leading the "espionage expedition," served a prison term at Jefferson City for violating that same act which caused the imprisonment of Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader, and hundreds of others. She conceived the idea of the expedition, she declared, when she saw the children and wives of the political prisoners' living in poverty.

Will Take on Recruits.

The army of children will take on recruits en route to the nation's capital. Stops will be made, Mrs. O'Hare states, at Chicago, Indianapolis, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Marion (the President's home), Detroit, Buffalo, New York City, Philadelphia and Baltimore. Many wives of men

serving sentences will be numbered in the personnel of the army.

The expenses of the expedition will be defrayed by voluntary contributions from persons in the various cities to be visited. Newspapers in several of the cities, Mrs. O'Hare states, have guaranteed expenses of the "troopers" from their cities to the one next on the itinerary.

When I saw those mothers and children, without any means of support, living in poverty that we can hardly imagine and realized from my stay in prison what confinement for years in a penitentiary means," said Mrs. O'Hare, "I knew that something must be done to relieve their plight."

"So I discussed it with my husband. He took the evidence to some of the best lawyers in the city, all of whom declared it was flimsy and would never have resulted in conviction except in the heat of war. Here is a representative case."

She exhibited the court record in the case of a Spaniard who is serving a twenty-year sentence for violation of the espionage act.

Cites Flimsy Evidence.

The evidence was a carbon copy of a letter containing the man's name along with several others, inciting members of the I. W. W. to use their strike prerogative. Mrs. O'Hare pointed out to the reporter that the right to strike is the lawful weapon of labor, and in reality the I. W. W. is a form of trade union. Hence no offense was committed there, she declared.

"Whenever I begin to lose faith in the success of a venture," she declared, "I look at that picture on the

wall." She pointed to an oil painting of the head and shoulders of a girl in a blue gingham dress and flowing brown hair, who at first glance appeared to be a child, but who on closer inspection, bore the look of maturity.

"You can't see it right in so much light," said the husband, as he shaded the bright electric light. The superintendent of the institution, famed throughout the country for its special care of the deaf. He is the author of a number of books and brochures on educational and scientific subjects.

Name Is Cut Off.

"That picture came to me," she said, "while I was in prison at Jefferson City. I don't know who sent it, because the lower half, containing probably the artist's name, had been cut off by the prison authorities. I hung it up in my cell, and it soon became a source of comfort. When I returned after making overalls all day, the cell was almost dark. It had a awful air of gloom, and the only light came from an electric lamp in front of the men's tier. I placed the painting so that when I sought rest each night, the light that pierced the darkness shone on that wonderful face."

"I represented hope to me and at the same time comfort and solace. Perhaps it was because it looked like my daughter. I remember when I was delirious with influenza I constantly carried on conversations with it, and it seemed to answer me."

"One day a priest brought me a picture of Saint Catherine, which I placed under the painting, and with these two I was almost content."

The Read Annex

Store closes daily at 6 o'clock

Anniversary Sale in The Annex
Commences Wednesday the 26

and Continues During Thursday, Friday and Saturday

For several weeks our buyers have been combing the market for all kinds of tempting bargains to commemorate

Our Fourth Anniversary

and their efforts have been more than satisfactory.

All fresh, new materials and garments, several of them making their first appearance in the Annex Depts.

We are confident that young and old, rich and poor alike, will proclaim this the best

and greatest sale that the people of Bridgeport have ever witnessed.

Watch Tuesday Nights Papers for Further Particulars

The Read Annex